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UNCLAS LJUBLJANA 000136

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: MARR SI

SUBJECT: SLOVENIA SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES REPORT,
FEBRUARY 2005

¶1. SUMMARY. Slovenia's proposed changes to the Slovene translation of ACSA were forwarded to EUCOM/J4-ID. TAG from Colorado will visit Slovenia in March.

¶2. POLITICAL-MILITARY

¶A. DEPLOYMENTS. The third rotation of Slovenian soldiers left Slovenia in February to participate in the international peacekeeping mission in Afghanistan.

¶B. According to the Prime Minister, Slovenia will contribute to the stabilization of Iraq just like other NATO members. Slovenia will train Iraqi security forces, give the Iraqi army 15,000 pieces of light arms, and will contribute 100,000 euros in cash for the mission there (for NATO's fund for training Iraqi security forces). The PM further said that whether Slovenian instructors train Iraqi security forces in a third country or in Iraq depends on the situation in Iraq; the instructors may be civilians, not soldiers.

¶C. According to a survey released in February, the "new" government and its leading party, the Slovenian Democrats (SDS), enjoy high public support, almost three months after establishing the government; and the Prime Minister (and SDS leader) remains by far the most popular politician. Also of note, in March the (new) Defense Minister is expected to present this year's defense priorities.

¶3. KEY ISSUES AND SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

¶A. FMF CASES

1) ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING (S3-D-TAC, \$650,194)

- There are 36 Slovenian students in elementary English classes, 48 in intermediate classes, and 13 in an advanced class, all of which will continue until June.
- A 3-week Peace Support Operations English course started on 21 Feb. There are 10 Slovenian military personnel attending the course.

2) BLANKET TRAINING (S3-B-OAC, \$102,500)

The first group (four students) of the four groups planned in total, will attend the Primary Leadership Development Course at 7th Army NCO Academy in Grafenwoehr, from 6 April to 6 May 2005.

3) DRILL INSTRUCTOR (S3-B-OAB, \$153,522)

The drill instructor will be here until 2 Apr, at Vipava Training Center observing Slovenia's basic training and will suggest improvements. The Commander of USASATMO, Col Helfer, and two others, will visit Georgia in March and will stop in Slovenia to visit the ODC and the Drill Instructor.

4) BELL 412 RADIO and IFF (S3-B-UAJ/UAK)

Installation of the radios (UAJ) is proceeding but was delayed which will cause a delay in the IFF installation (UAK). Schedules for both upgrades are currently being reviewed.

5) DEFENSE PLANNING SYSTEM (S3-B-UAS, \$111,126)

An additional class on Defense Planning will be added as an amendment to the case. NDU will conduct the training. ODC provided NDU an outline of the desired course this month.

6) VIDEOCONFERENCE (S3-B-UAU). Pricing and LOA for this case should be available within 60 days.

7) Air Sovereignty Operations Center (ASOC) (S3-D-QAA)
The Slovene MOD requested that this case be amended to include an additional 36 months of modernization and sustainment support. The official letter of request was sent in September 2004 and is expected to cost \$1,650,000 (\$550,000 per year for three years). The Slovenes requested that this case be funded with FMF funds instead of national funds. The LOA for this case depends on input from several countries and should be available shortly.

¶B. DCS/CONTRACTOR.

GPS. The Slovenes asked for an official explanation of

the US approval process to obtain P-codes. ODC sent a message to EUCOM requesting an explanation of the process and received an email response from the J6 action officer but no official response yet.

D. IMET

1) Funding for FY05 IMET was approved and Slovenia received the expected \$950K.

2) Six students were processed for various courses in the CONUS including Squadron Officer School and International Defense Management Course.

3) Slovenia has accepted invitations to nominate students for the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College (CGSC) and the Air Force Command and Staff College (ACSC). The ODC requested a rank waiver for ACSC as the nominated officer is a captain rather than requested rank of major. The waiver was approved by ACSC command section.

4) An ECL test was administered to 14 students in February, all candidates for various FY05 IMET and FMS S3-B-OAC.

5) Slovenia also received one of the fall-out slots for Academic year 2005-06 at the US Army Sergeant Major Academy. As Slovenia is still developing its professional NCO corps, a slot at such a prestigious institution is very valuable for the Slovene Armed Forces and should contribute to its growing professionalism.

E. COUNTERTERRORISM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM (CTFP)

For the first time the ODC submitted a request for funding from the Counterterrorism Fellowship Program, for FY06. While no terrorist organizations are known to be active in Slovenia, its central location, the proximity to the Balkan crisis areas and short Adriatic coastline make it an attractive potential transit country for trafficking in drugs, persons, and weapons of mass destruction (WMD) by criminal and terrorist organizations. These are the facts that contribute to a higher threat profile. It is therefore in the U.S. interest to provide training assistance and equipment, and to engage the Slovenian law enforcement community in efforts to detect, interdict, prosecute, and convict those involved in transnational criminal and terrorist activities. The SAF expressed an interest in hosting a regional conference on responses to terrorism in South-East Europe, which we hope to fund with the CTFP.

F. MARSHALL CENTER.

1) Two (2) participants from the Slovene Police are currently attending the "Program in Advanced Security Studies" (PASS 05-1).

2) An Assistant Professor from the Faculty of Social Science is attending the "Program on Terrorism and Security Studies" (PTSS 05-2).

G. MIL-TO-MIL/BILATERAL AFFAIRS

1) The Adjutant General from the Colorado National Guard, MG Whitney, will visit Slovenia following the TAG Conference in Garmisch, Germany. A schedule is being finalized with the Ministry of Defense for the General's visit. One of the interesting topics may be the connection that Colorado has with Jordan since Slovenia has talked about providing five instructors to train Iraqi police in Jordan. Colorado has a partnership with Jordan that has been gaining momentum over the last couple of months.

2) A meeting was held with Slovenia's FORSCOM, G-9, and J-7 to discuss and agree upon the mil-to-mil event approval process. This meeting went well and all parties are under agreement regarding the process for developing, approving, and modifying mil-to-mil events.

3) A mil-to-mil event, Military Decision Making Process, was scheduled for 28 Feb - 5 Mar with five

participants; however, one of them was hospitalized with pneumonia the day before departing. To minimize the impact, the plane ticket was cancelled as well as the hotel reservations.

4) The Small Unit Event Initial Planning Conference

between Slovenia's 17th BVP (MP) and the Colorado National Guard's 220th MP CO was conducted 8 - 11 Feb. The planning conference went well and the following things were accomplished: draft letter of intent was developed, a visit to four of the proposed training sites, as well as the lodging and mess facilities. The Small Unit Event is being used as the pre-deployment training for a Company of the 17th BVP before they go to KFOR on 30 Sep.

- 5) It was finally decided that WIF Funding is not available for Slovenia.
- 6) The ODC is now online with the SCIP portal. All members of the ODC, to include the FSNs, have received their passwords or tokens. Our contact in MoD is also getting access to SCIP.
- 7) Slovenia still intends to send one logistics officer to the Berlin Staff Ride in April.

14. PERSONNEL/RESOURCES/LOGISTICS

1A. PERSONNEL:

- 1) PERSPECTIVE GAINS: None
- 2) PERSPECTIVE LOSSES: None
- 3) ATTACHED PERSONNEL:
 - Mary Jo Villalobos, Language Center Coordinator
 - Kristin Pedroja, Test Developer, one year contract
 - Kathy Lance, English Teacher, one year contract
 - John Stephens, English Teacher, one year contract
 - Helen Prevost, English Teacher, one year contract
 - Terry Jenkins, English teacher, TDY 14 Jan - 25 Mar
 - Sgt Garfield Lyons, S3-B-OAB, TDY 3 Jan - 2 Apr 05
- 4) ODC CHIEF APPROVED TDY/LEAVE: None
- 5) RATING SCHEME CHANGES: None
- 6) EXTENSIONS/CURTAILMENTS: None

1B. RESOURCES. Vehicles and ADP equipment are 100% operational.

1C. ICASS. No issues.

1D. LOGISTICS.

- 1) The personal services contract for the BAO driver has been resolved after a couple of meetings with the embassy management office. A PSA Limited contract has been identified as being the contract mechanism that will meet the embassy guidelines. This contract limits us to 30 days of work within a calendar year. The contract is being finalized by the embassy contracting office and should be ready within the next few weeks.
- 2) The BAO office is waiting for approval to proctor the EUCOM Driver's exam for individuals that need to drive the BAO vehicle. Apparently there has been a hold up at USAREUR. This affects our BAO Driver since he has not been given this test.
- 3) Approval for the BAO van repairs has been received. The repairs will be made once the embassy contracting officer has completed the negotiation process.
- 4) The BAO has been added back into the Total Army Personnel Database thanks to the diligent work of SMG Franke.

15. CHIEF COMMENTS:

ACSA. The MOD, with Ministry of Foreign Affairs input, provided ODC with the new wording for the Slovene translation of the ACSA (the English version remains the same). The document was forwarded to EUCOM/J4-ID who will discuss with EUCOM lawyers and determine if the document needs to be signed again.

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REGARDS.
ROBERTSON

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